26th March 1955]

"(*b*) Yes; they are given holidays with pay, leave with pay, etc.

"(*c*) There has been no avoidable delay in the payments of stipends to students except the normal time required for verification of nativity and other certificates, administrative sanction and passing of bills by the Pay and Accounts Officer. In regard to the supply of materials such as paper, colours, brushes, etc., there has been no delay and the materials are distributed to the students once a year usually during January and February."

Property taxes in Mangalore Municipality

* 1639 *Q.*—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any protests or representations direct or through the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards against the increase of property taxes by the Mangalore Municipality; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken by the Government on these so far?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI:—"(*a*) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received against increases made in property tax assessments in Mangalore Municipality during the quinquennial revision in 1953–54.

"(*b*) The Government have appointed a Special Officer to dispose of the large number of revision petitions received against increase of property tax assessments. They have also asked the Special Officer to follow the various orders of Government issued in respect of taxes on owner-occupied houses. They have further asked the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards to investigate if there has been any default or perfunctoriness on the part of officers in connexion with the quinquennial revision work, and to take disciplinary action against them."

Hostel for Central Polytechnic, Madras

* 1640 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Principal, Central Polytechnic School, Madras, for the construction of a hostel; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The question of constructing a hostel for the students of the Central Polytechnic, Madras, was taken up by Government themselves in the year 1951–52, but the proposal could not be sanctioned for lack of funds.